

Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to sponsor 12 special events during January 2015

(DOVER, Del.—Dec. 8, 2014)—During the month of January 2015, the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs will be offering 12 special programs at sites across the state. All programs are free and open to the public. For additional information, call 302-744-5055.



Commodore Thomas
Macdonough

Highlights of the month include “Delaware’s Heroes of the Forgotten War,” guided tours exploring how three of Delaware’s military figures—Commodore Thomas Macdonough, Col. Allen McLane and Commodore Jacob Jones—helped keep the young country safe during the War of 1812, and how a Delaware statesman, James A. Bayard Sr., helped negotiate the Treaty of Ghent which ended the conflict. Tours will take place on Saturday, Jan. 3, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., at [The Old State House](#), located at 25 The Green in Dover.



Commodore Jacob Jones

On Saturday, Jan. 10 at 11 a.m., the [Dover Public Library](#), located at 35 Loockerman Plaza in Dover, will host "Lost By One Vote," a re-enactment in which Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreters Tom Welch and Dennis Fisher take on the personas of prominent Delaware congressmen Nathaniel B. Smithers and James A. Bayard Jr. as they debate President Abraham Lincoln's Compensated Emancipation Plan of 1862 that would have abolished slavery in Delaware.

Finally, on Saturday, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m., the [Zwaanendael Museum](#), located at 102 Kings Highway in Lewes, will present "Delaware's Decades—the 1980s: 'Salvage of His Majesty's Sloop DeBraak,' " a lecture by Claudia Leister, executive director of the Milford Museum, on the 1986 recovery of the British warship DeBraak that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798. Admission to the lecture is free but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Jan. 5, 2015.

Special events, January 2015

Note: Recent program changes are highlighted in brown.

Friday, Jan 2, 2015

Civil-War-era folk music. Performed by Covered Bridge. Presented in partnership with the [Delaware Friends of Folk](#).

[The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 7:30 p.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015

“Delaware’s Heroes of the Forgotten War.” Guided tours explore how three of Delaware’s military figures kept the young country safe during the War of 1812, and how a Delaware statesman helped in negotiating the Treaty of Ghent which ended the conflict. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015

“The Star Spangled Banner: Then and Now.” Guided tours examine the development of America’s national anthem through time with original recordings played on authentic Victor Talking Machines. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [Johnson Victrola Museum](#), 375 S. New St., Dover. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Saturday, Jan. 3, 2015

“Follow the Drinking Gourd.” Interactive children’s program focuses on Delaware’s involvement in the Underground Railroad and its many heroes who helped slaves escape to freedom. [First Saturday in the First State](#) program. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Program at 11 a.m. Museum open 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055.

Wednesdays, Jan. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2015

“Weaving Wednesdays.” Indoor, staff-led program in which visitors will learn how to weave a blanket or rag rug. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Program 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild. Program explores spinning, weaving, knitting and other fabric arts.

[John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover.
Program 1–3 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Saturday, Jan. 10, 2015

“Lost By One Vote.” Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs historical interpreters Tom Welch and Dennis Fisher take on the personas of prominent Delaware congressmen Nathaniel B. Smithers and James A. Bayard Jr. as they debate Abraham Lincoln’s Compensated Emancipation Plan of 1862 that would have abolished slavery in Delaware. Partnership between the Dover Public Library and the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs. [Dover Public Library](#), 35 Loockerman Plaza, Dover. 11 a.m. 302-736-7030.

Saturday, Jan. 17, 2015

“Delaware’s Decades—the 1980s: ‘Salvage of His Majesty’s Sloop DeBraak.’ ” Lecture by Claudia Leister, executive director of the Milford Museum. Part six of an eight-part series exploring decades in Delaware’s history. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Program at 2 p.m. Museum open 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission but, due to space restrictions, reservations are required by calling 302-645-1148 no later than Jan. 5, 2015.

Monday, Jan. 19, 2015

“Local Profiles of Courage for the Struggle for Freedom.” Three-part program beginning with a lecture at the Dover Public Library on the Underground Railroad in Delaware, followed by the “Tales of Slavery and Freedom” walking tour, and ending with a “Freedom Tour” at The Old State House that highlights the lives of James Summers and Samuel D. Burris. Partnership between the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the Dover Public Library and the First State Heritage Park. Programs begin at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the [Dover Public Library](#), 35 Loockerman Plaza, Dover. 302-736-7030.

Exhibits and displays, January 2015

In addition to special programming, the Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs is sponsoring the following exhibits and displays:

~~Thru Dec. 7, 2014~~

~~"An Illegal Activity: The Underground Railroad in Delaware."~~

~~Exhibit explores the First State's role in the Underground Railroad by showcasing Thomas Garrett and Samuel D. Burris and the actions they took in following their consciences rather than the law. Presented in partnership with the Underground Railroad Coalition of Delaware. First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries, Delaware Public Archives building, 121 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Dover. Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sat., 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055. Note: Exhibit closed on Dec. 7, 2014.~~

Thru spring 2015

"[Middletown Goes To War](#)." Designed by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the exhibit spotlights the contributions of Middletown's veterans from the Revolutionary War to the present. [Middletown Historical Society](#), 216 N. Broad St., Middletown. Fri., 9 a.m.-3 p.m. First Sat. of each month, 9 a.m.-Noon. Third Wed. of each month, Noon-4 p.m. Other times by appointment. 302-378-7466.

Ongoing

"[Delaware and the War of 1812](#)." Exhibit examines the service and sacrifice of Delawareans of 1812 to 1815, and the important role that the state played in a conflict that helped shaped the development of the United States. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Wed.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; ~~Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m.~~ from Nov. 1-March 31. Tue.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30-4:30 p.m. from April 1-Oct. 31. 302-645-1148. **Note correction to museum hours.**

Ongoing

"Dress for Success: The Edwardian Gentlemen's Wardrobe and Accessories." Display of objects of adornment, **fall and winter sporting attire**, fashion and accessories for male grooming from the time period depicted in the "Downton Abbey" television series. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [Legislative Hall](#), 411 Legislative Ave., Dover. Limited visitation hours; call 302-739-9194 before planning a visit. **Note change in display description.**

Ongoing

"Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey From Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad." Exhibit chronicles the compelling story of Emeline Hawkins and her family and their 1845 odyssey on the Underground Railroad from slavery in Maryland, through Delaware to freedom in Pennsylvania. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

Items from the permanent collections. Designed by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the exhibit includes items from the permanent collections of the Laurel Historical Society including images from the [Waller Photographic Collection](#). [Laurel Heritage Museum](#), Mechanic St., Laurel. Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–Noon. 302-875-9319 or 302-875-1344.

Ongoing

Sculptures by Charles Parks. Display of works by the noted Wilmington artist featuring historical and political figures including a Minute Man, and presidents Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford and George W. Bush. [New Castle Court House Museum](#), 211 Delaware St., New Castle. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30 p.m.–4:30 p.m. 302-323-4453.

Ongoing

"A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World."

Exhibit utilizes artifacts recovered from His Majesty's Sloop of War DeBraak, a British warship that sank off the Delaware coast on May 25, 1798 to tell the story of the vessel, its crew and the historical context within which it operated in the Atlantic World of the late 18th century. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; ~~Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m.~~ from Nov. 1–March 31. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. from April 1–Oct. 31. 302-645-1148. **Note correction to museum hours.**

Ongoing

"Simple Machines." Exhibit demonstrating the six "simple machines"—incline ramp, screw, wedge, pulley, lever and wheel—that constitute the elementary building blocks of which many more-complicated machines are composed. [John Dickinson Plantation](#), 340 Kitts Hummock Road, Dover. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. 302-739-3277.

Ongoing

"Simple Pleasures: ~~Picnic~~, Play and Dance." Display of original Edwardian and roaring-20s fall and winter fashions and sporting attire that reflect the spirit of the liberated "modern" woman as depicted in the "Downton Abbey" television series. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [The Old State House](#), 25 The Green, Dover. Mon.–Sat., 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Sun., 1:30–4:30 p.m. 302-744-5055. **Note change in display title and description.**

Ongoing

"Simple Pleasures: Play and Dance." Display of original Edwardian and roaring-20s fall and winter fashions that reflect the spirit of the liberated "modern" woman as depicted in the "Downton Abbey" television series. From the collections of the state of Delaware. [Zwaanendael Museum](#), 102 Kings Highway, Lewes. Wed.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. from Nov. 1–March 31. Tue.–Sat., 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.; Sun.,

1:30–4:30 p.m. from April 1–Oct. 31. 302-645-1148.

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